



***de maximis, inc.***

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July 15, 2008

**VIA ELECTRONIC & US MAIL**

Ms. Alice Yeh  
ATTN: Lower Passaic River Remedial Project Manager  
Emergency and Remedial Response Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 2  
290 Broadway, 19th Floor  
New York, New York 10007

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 14 – June 2008  
Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) Remedial Investigation/  
Feasibility Study (RI/FS)  
CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009**

Dear Ms. Yeh:

**de maximis, inc.** is submitting this Monthly Progress Report for the above-captioned project on the behalf of the RI/FS Agreement Settling Parties (Cooperative Parties Group or CPG) pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement or AOC). The Progress Report satisfies the reporting requirements of Paragraph 42 of said Settlement Agreement.

**(a) Actions which have been taken to comply with this Settlement Agreement during the previous month.**

**Meetings/Conference Calls**

- June 17, CPG held a conference call with EPA for preliminary discussion of the response to EPA comments for the Low Resolution Coring (LRC) / Sediment Sampling QAPP/FSP Addendum. Comments were received June 13.
- June 18, CPG met with EPA and MPI to discuss EPA comments that required clarification or resolution.

**Ms. A. Yeh**  
**LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No.14 – June 2008**  
**July 15, 2008**  
**Page 2 of 4**

- On June 20, CPG held a conference call to discuss locations for collecting cores as part of the Low Resolution Coring (LRC) effort planned for July 2008.

#### **Correspondence**

- On June 9, EPA sent a response to the CPG's April 29, 2008 letter indicating that they believe that sampling for non Hazardous Substance List (HSL) compounds can not be included in costs covered by the RI/FS Trust.
- On June 12, EPA sent CPG a letter indicating approval of the CPG's modeling team.
- On June 13, EPA sent CPG comments on the LRC QAPP/SOPs.
- On June 13, 2008, CPG submitted the LPRSA Progress Report for May to EPA.
- On June 17, EPA sent CPG a letter outlining the requirements for submitting project schedule updates.
- On June 19, CPG provided EPA with a supplemental response to EPA comments on the CPG's bathymetry survey report.
- On June 27, CPG provided EPA with responses to EPA's comments on the LRC QAPP.

#### **Work**

- CPG is conducting an internal review of a Draft Feasibility Study Work Plan. A Draft Feasibility Study Work Plan will be submitted to EPA on August 1.
- CPG continued to develop a framework for conducting the risk assessment and is awaiting receipt of the EPA and Partner Agencies' (PA) comments on the 2006 Field Sampling Plan Volume 2 (FSP 2) to complete this framework and to hold an FSP 2 scoping meeting with EPA and the PA. EPA indicated in its June 17, 2008 letter that FSP 2 Comments would be provided on June 27, 2008; the CPG has not received the FSP 2 Comments.
- CPG is evaluating potential remedial action pilot studies within the study area with the understanding that EPA is in agreement with this preliminary scoping effort.

**Ms. A. Yeh**  
**LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No.14 – June 2008**  
**July 15, 2008**  
**Page 3 of 4**

- CPG has been meeting internally to scope the RI/FS activities for 2008/2009 and to develop a revised project schedule. A revised project schedule will be submitted to EPA on July 11.
- CPG responded to EPA comments on the LRC QAPP and prepared for the LRC program.
- CPG is working to update the conceptual site model based upon a revised sediment stability analysis using the most recent bathymetry data collected in the LPRSA as well as existing river gage and mooring data.

**(b) Results of Sampling and Tests**

- There are no results from this reporting period.

**(c) Work planned for the next two months with schedules relating to the overall project schedule for RI/FS completion**

- CPG is planning initiation of the field work in July pending EPA approval of the LRC QAPP/FSP addendum that was submitted on May 2, 2008.
- CPG anticipates meetings with EPA and PA to review and discuss unscoped tasks in FSP Volume 1 including water column, mudflat, groundwater, and pore water sampling.
- CPG anticipates meeting with EPA and PA to review and discuss draft FSP 2 following receipt of FSP 2 comments from EPA. As part of this scoping meeting, the CPG will discuss the draft Risk Assessment Framework that has been under development.
- CPG will continue work to review and evaluate the Conceptual Site Model as new data are generated in the LPR study area.

**(d) Problems encountered and anticipated problems, actual or anticipated delays, and solutions developed and implemented to address actual or anticipated problems or delays.**

As stated above, the CPG is not in receipt of EPA's draft FSP 2 Response to Comments. As a result the CPG is unable to address the stakeholders' comments and schedule an FSP scoping meeting to discuss them. It is CPG's

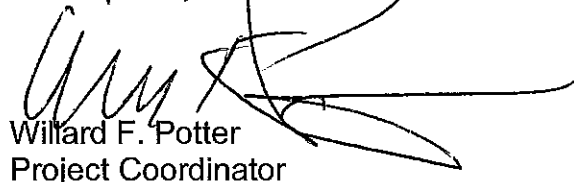
**Ms. A. Yeh**  
**LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No.14 – June 2008**  
**July 15, 2008**  
**Page 4 of 4**

understanding that FSP 2 sampling program cannot be developed and implemented occur a stakeholder scoping meeting is conducted.

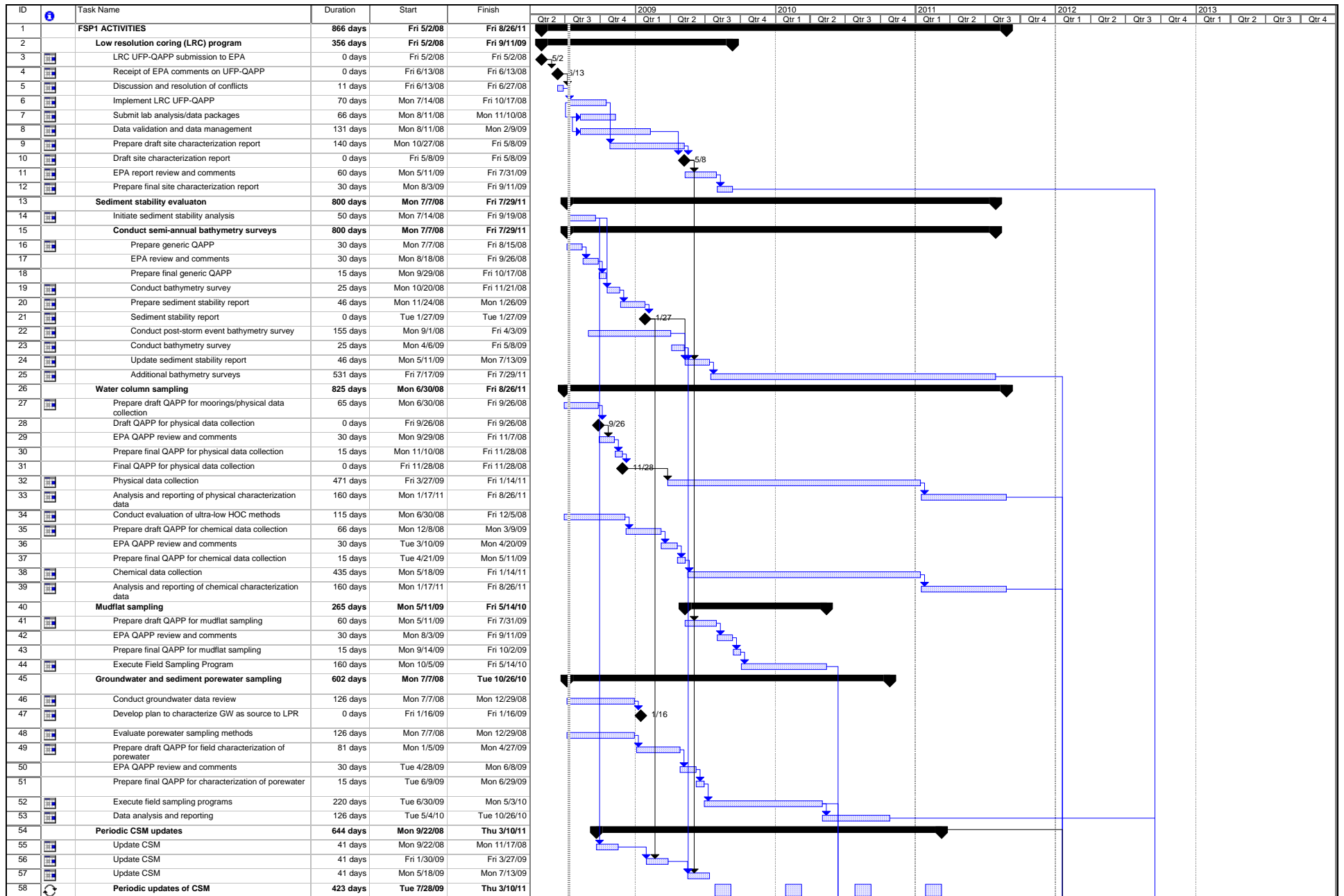
If you have any questions, please contact me or Rob Law at (908) 735-9315.

Very truly yours,










**de maximis, inc.**

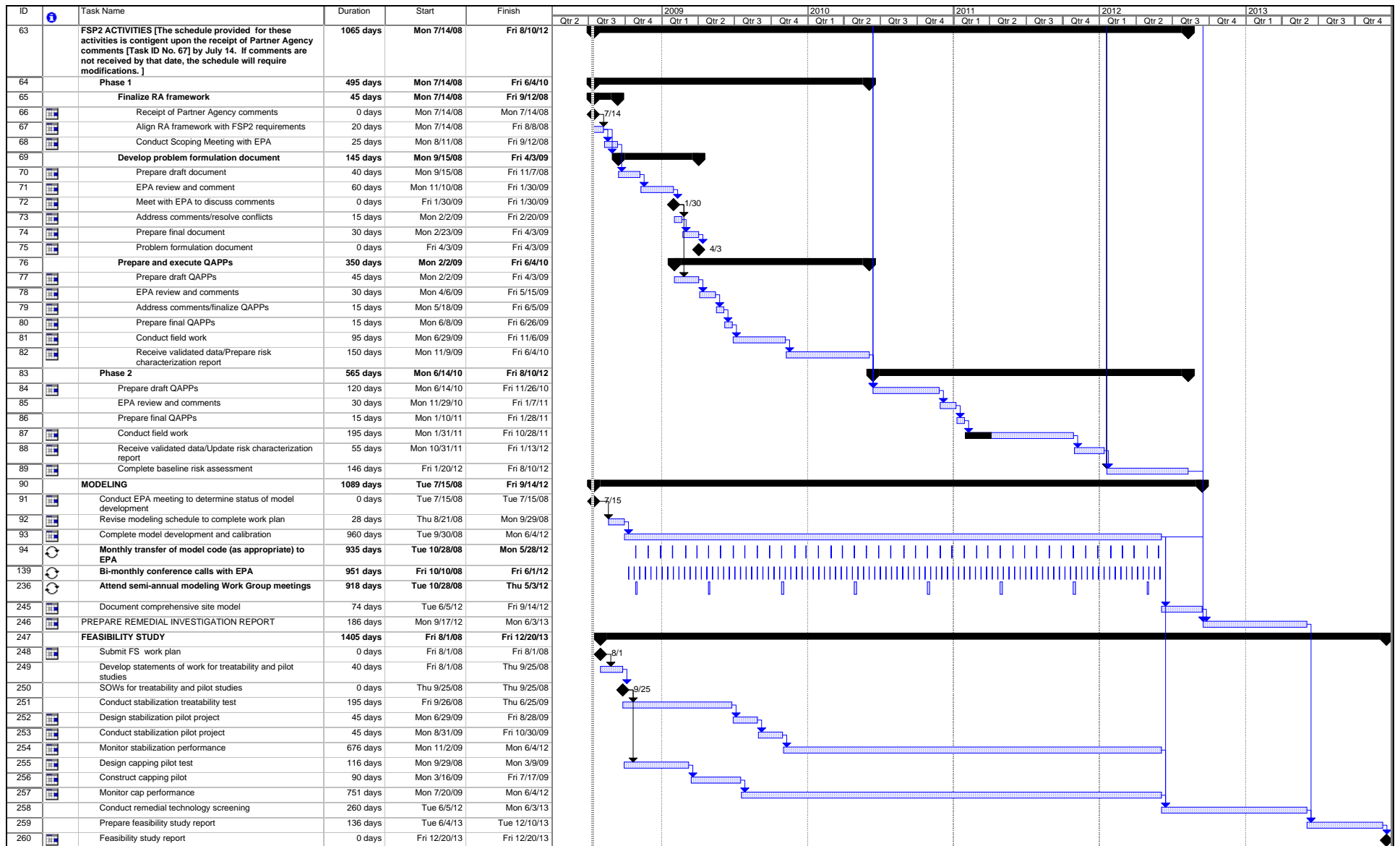
  
Willard F. Potter  
Project Coordinator

cc: Sarah Flanagan, EPA Office of Regional Counsel  
William Hyatt, CPG Coordinating Counsel  
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Kristine Carbonneau, ENSR  
Dave Nakles, ENSR











Overall LPRRP Project Schedule  
(May 9, 2008 through Dec 31, 2013)  
Date: July 11, 2008

Task  Progress  Summary  External Tasks  Deadline   
Split  Milestone  Project Summary  External Milestone 



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